



THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECYCLETER



Fall 2009

Number 81

Program Update

Thank you for your continued time and dedication! Throughout the summer volunteers helped at numerous outreach events and distributed our new door hangers in their communities. This fall we continue to participate in many outreach activities and have seen many returning volunteers and some new faces.

Many of you helped at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair in August, even though it seemed to be the hottest week of the summer. As a result of your hard work, we reached over 6,175 fair participants! Thank you to everyone that volunteered during the fair!

This fall, we will be sponsoring a Community Service Day activity on Saturday, October 24, 2009 in Silver Spring. We will be rejuvenating the recycling program at three multi-family properties. Our goal is to continue to educate the community and of course to increase recycling!

We will also continue to recruit your help for the distribution of the Division's new door hanger. In addition to scheduling "distribution" parties, we will be depending on you to distribute the door hangers at your convenience in your neighborhoods. Any help we can get is greatly appreciated!

Thank you for your ongoing support!



Ana Amigo

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Recycling News!

On September 21, the County Executive announced a further expansion of the County's curbside recycling program to include additional materials.

Now you can recycle the following materials:

Commingled Materials (include the following materials in the blue commingled materials recycling bin)

- Tupperware™ or Rubbermaid™-type durable reusable plastic containers and lids
- Non-hazardous aerosol cans (whipped topping; spray cooking oil; deodorant; hair spray; shaving cream) and caps



Mixed Paper Items (include the following paper materials in the wheeled mixed paper recycling cart, or place into a small paper bag or a small cardboard box with a secure lid, or bundle)

- Milk and juice cartons (remove plastic caps from milk and juice cartons; caps can be placed in the commingled blue bin)
- Frozen food boxes (frozen vegetables and meals)
- Cardboard ice cream containers and lids
- Paper coffee and beverage cups
- Fruit and produce boxes (wax-coated)
- Juice and drink boxes





A Job Well Done!

Once again, volunteers have done an outstanding job at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. This year the weather was nice and steamy, but through it all everyone was enthusiastic. At the Fair, staff and volunteers spoke to more than 6,175 fair participants! Forty-one volunteers donated three hundred sixty-three hours of their time. Thank you for your hard work!



Volunteers working hard during the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair at the Division of Solid Waste Services' informational booth August 14 - August 22, 2009



Fall Clean-up

I know some of you have a "fall clean-up" listed on your to-do list! As you get ready for your cleaning endeavor, figure out what you can do with the items you no longer use. Many local charities will accept clothing and household items such as: desks, bed frames, beds, lamps, cooking ware, and many other items. Start out by contacting the charities of your choice to determine what they will accept and if they will pick up the materials from your home. You can use the "Use it Again" database available on our website (www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling) to find local charities in your communities.

By reusing the items you no longer want you are reducing the amount of trash being disposed.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can you recycle glass air freshener bottles?

Montgomery County accepts food grade glass bottles and jars for recycling. Glass air freshener bottles are not recycled in the curbside recycling program. Do not recycle glass items such as: drinking glasses, ceramic plates, glass cooking ware, and wine glasses. These items can be sold at yard sales or donated. Wondering what do with broken glass? Place any broken glass in a paper bag and dispose of it in the trash.



Waste-Free Lunch!

According to the EPA, every child who takes lunch to school in disposable packaging generates 67 pounds of trash per year. However, a waste-free lunch generates less trash. By planning ahead you and your child can take a waste-free lunch to school or work, reduce waste, and save money.



Planning lunches ahead can save an estimated \$200 per person per year! In these tough economic times every little bit helps. A disposable lunch costs \$4.02 per day while a waste-free lunch costs \$2.65 per day (www.wastefreelunches.com). If you bring your lunch to work instead of buying lunch, imagine the savings.

Below are some tips to reduce waste and save money! If you already follow these tips, keep up the great work! If not, these simple tips can be adopted to keep extra change in your pocket.

- Explain to your child why waste-free lunches are important.
- Use reusable containers such as Tupperware®. If not, reuse plastic carry-out containers.
- Use cloth napkins instead of paper napkins.
- Use silverware instead of plastic forks and spoons.
- Use reusable beverage bottles.
- Use reusable lunch boxes or lunch bags.
- Instead of purchasing prepackaged food buy food in bulk. Prepare by placing your portion into smaller reusable containers. This is great for foods such as yogurt or chips.
- Keep food cold by adding ice packs in the lunch container or by freezing beverages the night before. You can also add ice cubes when filling beverage containers.
- For warm foods, use insulated food jars.



- Fruits, such as apples and oranges, are naturally prepackaged.
- If you are concerned about misplaced reusable containers, consider purchasing the containers at flea markets, yard sales, second hand stores, or even via Freecycle (www.freecycle.org).



Just remember, waste-free lunches cost less, reduce waste, and many times are healthy alternatives to pre-packaged food with preservatives.

Volunteer Training Opportunity: Lead Volunteer

Interested volunteers are invited to participate in a lead volunteer training. This training is designed for volunteers who are ready to take on additional responsibilities and staff outreach events by themselves or with other volunteers.

When: Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Where: Executive Office Building
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Rockville, Maryland

Time: 6pm to 8pm

For additional information and to register, call Ana Arriaza at 240-777-6445 or e-mail ana.arriaza@montgomerycountymd.gov.

We are Going Paperless!

In an effort to reduce the amount of paper generated, the Recyclerter is going paperless. Please contact me if you prefer to receive the Recyclerter via e-mail.

To update your information, call Ana Arriaza at 240-777-6445 or e-mail ana.arriaza@montgomerycountymd.gov.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES
RECYCLING VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECYCLES



Return Service Requested

2009 EVENTS CALENDAR

For more information about the events below, please contact the Recycling Volunteer Program
at (240) 777-6445 or e-mail us at recycle@montgomerycountymd.gov.
All of our activities are approved Student Service Learning experiences.

Date	Time	Event	Location
November 14	10am to 2pm	America Recycles Day Celebration	Germantown
14	10am to 2pm	America Recycles Day Celebration	Silver Spring
15	8am to 12pm	America Recycles Day Celebration	Silver Spring
15	1pm to 5pm	America Recycles Day Celebration	Bethesda
21	10 am to 12pm	Silver Spring Annual Thanksgiving Parade	Silver Spring

We will keep you updated as more events get added to the calendar!



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